

Trade in River Valley Civilizations:



1. Nile River Valley--

The Nile River was a drawback to the Egyptian trade. This is because the Nile River is so large people could not go around it; rather they had to go through it. So Egyptians first needed to build ships and vessels if they wanted to trade. Egyptian records list items that were brought into Egypt, such as leopard skins, giraffe tails, monkeys, and cattle. More than animals, Egypt imported gold, pottery, metals food, and some finished goods. Some of these

items, like pottery and gold, were used to decorate a Pharaoh's tomb. Egypt exported grain, linen, papyrus, and some finished goods. Egypt traded with Nubians and with the Palestine. After a while Egypt became more open to trade with other societies; Cyprus, Crete, Greece, and Punt.

2. Mesopotamia—

The people of Mesopotamia used boats, donkeys, and people traveling by foot to transport the various imports and exports. Items in bulk were transported by boat, but light weight objects were transported by foot. The Phoenicians developed ships which allowed them to trade by sea.

Mesopotamia did not have a lot of natural resources so it had to trade. Babylon imported timber, wine, precious metals, and stones that were exchanged for its exports. Babylon exported grains, oils, and textiles. The Phoenicians developed a trade route to Egypt and the rest of Mediterranean.

3. Indus River Valley—



To trade the Indus used something

known as bullock carts. This is a kind of a cart or a wagon pulled by animals like an ox. The Indus River Valley Civilization also used boats to transport objects for trade by the rivers. The specific boat type that was used by the Indus is not well known; however people believe it to have been very basic.

The Indus River Valley traded with other societies. They had traded to obtain gold, silver, copper, lead, and gems. The Harappans had also traded among themselves. This is because they had a great agricultural system, which allowed trade within the civilization its self, much easier. Some items that were exchanged among the Indus cities include cotton, lumber, grain, animals, pottery, and tools.

Some societies the Indus Civilization traded with were Central Asia, and Persia. It was not till 2300 to 1750 B.C.E., that the Harappans traded with Mesopotamia for copper, pearls, wool, leather, and oil.

4. Huang He-

A few problems that ancient Chinese civilizations faced were the large bared deserts and large mountains; which both kept the ancient Chinese civilizations from frequently trading with other advanced

civilizations. The uses of transportation that the ancient Chinese civilizations would use would be horse drawn chariots for land uses. There is no real evidence of any ancient Chinese civilization ships before the time period of 500 B.C, but there is little evidence that Chinese mariners used large oar-propelled vessels.

The ancient Chinese civilization got the Jade in Shang tombs from central Asia, and the military technology involving horse-drawn chariots came from Mesopotamia. Some of the everyday items involved tin which came from the Malay Peninsula in Southeast Asia, and cowry shells came though Southeast Asia.

Huang He's main export are believed to be some Shang Dynasty pottery.

Chinese civilizations traded with Central Asia, Southeast Asia and Mesopotamia. The ancient Chinese civilizations traded with these civilizations because these were the only civilizations that they could get to with the limited form of transportation that they had.



